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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION **WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001**

Before Commissioners: Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;

> Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman; Mark Acton; and

Robert Taub

Institutional Cost Contribution Requirement for Competitive Products Docket No. RM2012-3

ORDER GRANTING REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE FOR EXTENSION

(Issued March 1, 2012)

On February 24, 2012, the Parcel Shippers Association (PSA) filed a motion to extend the deadlines for filing initial and reply comments in this proceeding from March 5, 2012 and April 2, 2012 to February 6, 2013 and March 6, 2013. Pursuant to the Commission's rules, answers to the PSA Motion are due March 2, 2012.²

¹ Motion of the Parcel Shippers Association to Extend the Period for Preparing Initial and Revised Comments, February 24, 2012, at 1 (PSA Motion).

² Thus far, responses to the PSA Motion have been filed by the Direct Marketing Association, Inc., the Public Representative, and the Association for Postal Commerce. Comments of the Direct Marketing Association, Inc. in Support of the Parcel Shippers Association Motion for Changes in Procedural Schedule, February 28, 2012; Public Representative Comments on Parcel Shippers Association Motion to Extend Initial and Reply Comment Period, February 29, 2012; Comments of the Association for Postal Commerce in Support of the Motion of the Parcel Shippers Association for Changes in the Procedural Schedule, February 29, 2012.

On February 29, 2012, the Postal Service filed a request for a provisional extension of the comment period to resolve the uncertainty parties currently have as to whether they should prepare initial comments for filing on March 5, 2012.³

The Postal Service Request for a Provisional Extension is granted. Parties will provisionally have until one week after the Commission rules on the PSA Motion to file initial comments in response to Commission Order No. 1108.⁴ After the deadline for filing answers to the PSA Motion expires, the Commission will rule on the PSA Motion in a timely manner to provide parties with certainty regarding future due dates for filings in this proceeding.

It is ordered:

- The Request of the United States Postal Service for Extension filed February 29, 2012, is granted.
- Initial comments in response to Order No. 1108 are provisionally due one week after the Commission rules on the Motion of the Parcel Shippers Association to Extend the Period for Preparing Initial and Revised Comments.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove Secretary

³ Request of the United States Postal Service for Extension, February 29, 2012 (Request for a Provisional Extension).

⁴ Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Evaluate the Institutional Cost Contribution Requirement for Competitive Products, January 6, 2012 (Order No. 1108).